

**First Selectman's Report**  
**April 25, 2016**

**Town of Simsbury Emergency Personnel Conduct Training Exercise at 200 Hopmeadow Street**

On Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> the Town of Simsbury's emergency personnel conducted a training exercise involving police, fire, ambulance and hazmat personnel, numerous volunteers from our community and beyond, and Town and Board of Education staff. The exercise simulated an emergency situation at a school which included an active shooter, explosives and a hazardous chemical spill. The drill took extensive planning and involved more than 175 people. We were fortunate to have representatives from DEMHS Region 3 who worked closely with our Emergency Operations Center team on protocols and procedures.

I'm pleased to report that the exercise went very well and that all involved found the experience to be beneficial. I want to thank all who took the time to participate, including members of this Board, Town and Board of Education staff and so many more. Special thanks go to Kevin Kowalski for coordinating Saturday's exercise.

**Thanks to the over 200 volunteers who participated in the Farmington Valley Trails Clean-up on April 17<sup>th</sup>**

Thank you to the Farmington Valley Trails Council, President Bruce Donald, and the many volunteers who cleaned up the bike trails around town and along the Greenway. Great job by the more than 200 volunteers who helped out!

Now that clean-up day has passed, please help us keep our trails the pride of the Farmington Valley by not disposing of lawn debris, grass clippings, or brush in the State DOT Right of Way next to the bike trail. Very much appreciated!

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is April 30<sup>th</sup>**

The Town of Simsbury, in conjunction with the Towns of Avon, Canton, Granby and Farmington will be holding a Hazardous Waste collection on Saturday, April 30, 2016 in Farmington at Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT. The collection will run from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Residents may dispose of items including compact and florescent light bulbs, batteries, lawn care chemicals, items containing Mercury, household cleaners, chemicals from the garage. In addition to hazardous waste disposal, Farmington is also offering free electronic recycling drop-off at the Farmington Town Hall 1, Monteith Drive. Thank you to Tom Roy, Simsbury Director of Public Works for offering this program. For more specific information, please contact the Simsbury Public Works at (860) 675-2550.

**Simsbury Innovation Fair**

The Innovation Fair is set for April 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with exhibits, activities and demonstrations at the Simsbury Public Library, the Historical Society and Simsbury High School. Check out cool activities and presentations including "Drones and How They Fly," keynote speaker, Jake Fisher – Director of Auto Testing at *Consumer Reports*, 3D printer demonstration, exhibits of local innovation, teen activities, children's activities, and activities for all ages. For complete details go to: [Simsburyideas.com](http://Simsburyideas.com). Thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to bring this event to Simsbury!

### **Monster-Size Recycling Event – Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. – noon at Andy’s Market**

Thanks to the Simsbury Grange for co-sponsoring the Green Monster E-Cycling event on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until noon at Andy’s Market, 836 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070. A \$10 donation is suggested. They will be accepting the following items:

Televisions	Computers and Laptops
Computer monitors/screens	Printers and Fax machines
Toner and in-jet cartridges	Telephones of PBX systems
Modems/routers, switches or hubs	All types of cables and wiring
Main-frames and server racks	Stereos and radios
DVD and CD players	Ipods, walkmans, and PDA’s
All Storage media	and more

More information on the items accepted can be found on Green Monster E-Cycling at: <http://www.GreenMonsterEycling.com> or contact them by phone at: (860) 231-1426.

### **Town of Simsbury Police Establish “Safe Exchange Zone” for Exchange of Goods**

The Town of Simsbury’s Police Department has established the police department lobby as a “safe exchange zone.” The idea is that people can use the public portion of the lobby to safely exchange goods – for example, a Craig’s list exchange. The lobby is open to the public and under video surveillance twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The space should be used for exchanges and not for the conduct of regular business, and the goal is to provide a sense of security for those who may want it. The lobby has been and will continue to be a safe place for child custody exchanges. To be clear, the “safe exchange zone” is in the lobby and not in the Town Hall parking lot. Our thanks to the Police Department for providing this service.

### **Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Applications Due by May 16, 2016**

The 2016 Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program provides a tax credit to business firms that make cash investments in qualifying community programs conducted by tax exempt or municipal agencies. Qualifying community programs include energy conservation projects, neighborhood assistance, job training, education, community services, crime prevention and many others. If you are a tax exempt organization providing a qualified community program, you should consider applying for the tax credit program which should help you to raise funds. If you would like further information about the program, visit the Department of Revenue Services website at [www.ct.gov/DRS](http://www.ct.gov/DRS) and search for “Neighborhood Assistance Act.”

In order to obtain benefits under the program, you must submit an application to the First Selectman’s Office, 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070, attn.: Thomas F. Cooke, Director of Administrative Services, on or before Monday, May 16, 2016.

### **Budget Referendum Postponed by Board of Finance**

The Board of Finance has delayed the budget referendum and tentatively scheduled its Final Public Hearing on the budget for May 18<sup>th</sup> in the hope that the state will have clarified its own budget position on municipal aid. The date for the budget referendum cannot be determined until the Board of Finance has filed the budget with the Town Clerk. Residents should stay tuned for more information on this process as it evolves. All of our budget documents, including the budget put forward by the Board of Selectmen, can be found on the Town's website at [www.simsbury-ct.gov](http://www.simsbury-ct.gov).

### **May is Bike Month in Simsbury!**

May is Bike Month in Simsbury and there are loads of biking events during the month for everyone. You can even kick off Bike Month a day early, on April 30<sup>th</sup>, by participating in the Simsbury Historical Society's "Everybody Rides" event, which includes an exhibit, the Simsbury Bike Challenge Kick-Off and a workshop on "Parent/Child Biking as One." Throughout the month there will be bike to school events, bicycle maintenance classes, historical bike trail rides and much more. For all the details, you should visit [www.simsbury.bike](http://www.simsbury.bike). It takes many, many volunteers to make all of this happen and I want to thank everyone who is part of making Bike Month a real event in Simsbury.